

1
2
3
4
5
6 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
7 WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
8 AT SEATTLE

9 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

10 Plaintiff,

11 v.

12 ABINET ONKISO,

13 Defendant.

Case No. CR22-106RSL

ORDER TERMINATING
PROBATION

14
15 This matter comes before the Court on defendant's motion for early termination of
16 probation (Dkt. # 49) and the Government's response (Dkt. # 50). Having reviewed the briefing
17 and the record herein, including defendant's letter to the Court (Dkt. # 48), the Court hereby
18 GRANTS defendant's motion to terminate probation, effective May 30, 2025.
19

20 **I. Background**

21
22 On July 20, 2023, defendant pleaded guilty to four counts of aiding and assisting in the
23 preparation and presentation of a false and fraudulent tax return in violation of 26 U.S.C.
24 § 7206(2). Dkts. # 1, 29. On November 30, 2023, this Court sentenced defendant to a two-year
25 term of probation and 240 hours of community service. Dkt. # 42.
26

27 Defendant has completed the required 240 hours of community service through work at
28 the Seattle Children's Alyssa Burnett Adult Life Center. Dkt. # 49 at 3, Ex. 1. His probation
Order Terminating Probation - 1

1 officer reports that he is on the minimal level of supervision. Dkt. # 50 at 3. He makes regular
2 restitution payments and has currently paid \$1,800 of the more than \$200,000 restitution
3 judgment. *Id.* His two year term of probation is set to expire on or about November 30, 2025.
4 Dkt. # 49 at 2.

6 II. Discussion

7
8 After a defendant has finished one year of probation, the Court may terminate probation
9 early if, having considered the factors set forth in 18 U.S.C. § 3553(a) “to the extent they are
10 applicable,” the Court is satisfied that early termination “is warranted by the conduct of the
11 defendant and the interest of justice.” 18 U.S.C. § 3564(c). Here, defendant pleaded guilty to
12 using his tax preparation business to falsify deductions for working class immigrants, who then
13 used the resulting refunds to pay for everyday necessities or travel to their native countries to
14 visit family. Dkt. # 49. Defendant earned a modest income as a tax preparer and did not directly
15 profit from the illegal refunds, but his crimes did deprive the government of more than \$212,000
16 in tax revenue. Dkts. # 49, 50. He has now completed all of his Court-ordered community
17 service and recently completed a Ph.D. as part of his efforts to forge a new career path. Dkts.
18 # 48, 49. Defendant stated in a February 5, 2025 letter to the Court that during his probation he
19 has “learned the importance of accountability, self-discipline, and community engagement,” and
20 that going forward he is committed to “a life grounded in integrity and service.” Dkt. # 48. The
21 Government does not contest defense counsel’s contention that defendant’s record on probation
22 has been “spotless,” and the parties agree that defendant has been making regular restitution
23 payments. Dkts. # 49, 50. Considering this record and the § 3553(a) factors, the Court finds that
24
25
26
27
28

1 early termination is warranted by the conduct of the defendant and the interest of justice. 18
2 U.S.C. § 3564(c). The termination of probation shall occur on May 30, 2025, at roughly the
3
4 year-and-a-half mark of defendant's two-year term. The Court also reminds defendant that his
5 obligation to pay restitution continues even after his probation is terminated.

6 **III. Conclusion**

7
8 For all the foregoing reasons, the Court GRANTS defendant's motion to terminate
9 probation. The termination of defendant's probation shall be effective May 30, 2025.

10
11
12 DATED this 29th day of May, 2025.

13
14 

15 Robert S. Lasnik
16 United States District Judge
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28